

Message

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Sent: 9/27/2017 6:54:07 PM
To: Libertz, Catherine [Libertz.Catherine@epa.gov]; Goodin, John [Goodin.John@epa.gov]
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Subject: update on meeting with FL regarding assumption of 404 program

I just wanted to catch whom ever is crafting points for the OW staff meeting with a quick update about how the meeting with FLDEP went. Summary - very successful.

We covered a lot of ground and exchanged a lot of great information. The state and Region feel more comfortable with the process ahead and the areas that need to be clarified (including some by me). There are still a number of issues the state needs to think through regarding how they want to structure their program and it is a very aggressive timeline (FDEP wants to be issuing 404 permits by mid-December 2018); however, I think everyone walked away from the meeting thinking some of the issues that stymied the 1994-96 effort may have a options for a path forward.

R4 staff was excellent. Justin Green the director for FL's water program (permitting would be under him), really appreciated the regional knowledge of Florida's geography, ecosystem, programs, and laws. It was impressive and incredibly helpful as we discussed ways FL could address some of the consistency requirements or we jointly identified areas they need to think more about.

I will be working from home tomorrow (Thursday) if you want more details, feel free to call me at 566-1269 or send me an e-mail.

I will not be at the all hands meeting, as I will be on the line while R5 briefs the Acting RA on the WI Menominee Tribe's request to consult on redesignating a water currently assumed by MI for 404 permitting as retained by the Corps.

thanks, Kathy

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